IN THE SPECIFICATION

Specification at page 1, line 1 by inserting:

This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) of provisional application Serial No. 60/244,971, filed on November 1, 2000.

The foregoing amendment is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(5)(i). Although the reference has not been submitted within four months of filing the application, the Patent and Trademark Office recognized this information and included it on the filing receipt (a copy of the filing receipt is enclosed). Accordingly, no fee or petition is due with this Preliminary Amendment. See 66 Fed. Reg. 67087, 67090.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul F. Fehlner, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 35,135

Attorney for Applicants

DARBY & DARBY, P.C. 805 Third Avenue New York, N.Y. 10022 Phone (212) 527-7700